

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC FACILITIES

FRANK H. MURKOWSKI, GOVERNOR

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July 30, 2004

Dear Reviewer:

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF) is pleased to release the Gravina Access Project Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for review and comment. A notice of availability is anticipated in the *Federal Register* on August 6, 2004.

The Final EIS is available at no cost on the project web site www.gravina-access.com and on compact disc (CD). Printed and bound versions may be reviewed at the Ketchikan Library (629 Dock Street); Ketchikan Gateway Borough Planning Office (344 Front Street); and DOT&PF (6860 Glacier Highway, Juneau). You may obtain a bound color copy for the cost of reproduction, approximately \$100 per copy. Appendices that have not changed since the draft EIS are not reprinted in the bound versions but are available on the web site and on the CD.

Comments made in writing will help us and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) arrive at a final decision regarding the project. The purpose of the Final EIS is to disclose the project's impacts, respond to comments made about the Draft EIS, identify a preferred alternative, and propose measures to mitigate impacts. The reviews and document revisions ensure that a decision is reached with full information. Substantive changes since the Draft EIS (published in August 2003) are marked in this Final EIS in bold text.

Send comments on the Final EIS by **September 7, 2004**. Please submit comments via mail on 8½x11 white or light-colored paper suitable for copying:

James A. Evensen, P.E., Project Manager
DOT&PF Southeast Region
6860 Glacier Highway
Juneau, AK 99801-7999

Or send comments via fax: (907) 465-3506; or via email to: james_evensen@dot.state.ak.us.

Appendix L of the Final EIS includes the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' public notice of application for a permit under Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. The comment period for the Corps public notice runs concurrently with the EIS comment period.

To obtain a copy of the Final EIS, or for additional information, please contact me at (907) 465-1851.

Sincerely,



James A. Evensen, P.E.
Project Manager